GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5299
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2001
MAINTENANCE OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY - 37
ABDUL HAMID

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that after the inauguration of Narnarayan Setu on NH-37 at Goal Para in Assam over the river Brahmaputra during 1998 becomes more important as it is the only shortest route to Guwahati and other capital cities of North-Eastern States;

(b) whether the condition of NH-37 including bridges and culverts are in very bad shape;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Bridge approach to the Narnarayan Setu h ave become no man`s land and neither the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) nor the Railways are taking initiatives for its maintenance;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Union Government have made any Budgetary Allocation for the reconstruction ofNH-37 during the current financial year;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (MAJOR GENERAL (RETI KHANDURI, AVSM)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b)&(c) NH 37, including bridges and culverts, is being maintained in traffic-worthy condition within the availability of funds.

(d)&(e) The approaches to the Narnarayan Setu form part of National Highway No. 37 (South Bank) and NH 31B (North Bank) and are entrusted to the State PWD of Assam for maintenance.

(f),(g)&(h) Allocation of budget is made State-wise and not NH-wise.An amount of Rs.70.00 crore has been earmarked for development of National Highways including NH 37 in the State of Assam during 2001-02.